

TOWN TOPICS

T/Sgt. A. B. Davenport, jr., is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Davenport, in the Roper section for the first time in six years.

The "brownout" came to an end yesterday, when the War Production Board revoked its order against unnecessary lighting following President Truman's proclamation of victory in Europe.

The Plymouth Parent-Teacher Association will meet Thursday night of this week at 8 o'clock, in the high school auditorium.

Pvt. Luthern N. Allen, of the Army Air Forces, is spending a brief furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Allen, of Plymouth.

S/Sgt. R. A. Lang, husband of Mrs. Kathleen Mobley Lang, manager of Rose's store here, is now in an Army hospital in Georgia and expects to be home shortly for 30 days' leave.

After being closed since April 6, the season for taking bass, perch and other game fish in inland waters will open on Saturday of next week, May 19.

County Auditor E. J. Spruill was back in his office at the courthouse Monday for a short while, after being out for more than a month while receiving medical treatment at a Rocky Mount hospital.

Pfc. Tim L. Warren, who has been serving with the American Fifth Army in Italy, was recently awarded the Good Conduct Medal, his par-

First Steps Taken for School Bond Election

Needs, Purposes Set Forth in Resolution

Financial Statement Shows Present Net School Debt Is \$257,300

County authorities took preliminary steps at their meetings last Monday for calling and holding the special election to vote on issuance of \$250,000 worth of bonds for construction of new school buildings and repairing and making additions to present buildings.

The board of education, at its meeting, adopted a resolution presented by County Attorney W. L. Whitley. It recites the necessity for the election and formally requests the county board of commissioners to take the required steps to call an election "as soon as practicable."

In turn, the county commissioners received the resolution and entered it upon their minutes at Monday's meeting. This constitutes formal acknowledgement of the request, as required by the special act passed at the last session of the legislature.

This statement shows an outstanding debt for school purposes of \$303,300; from which is deducted \$46,000 now in the school sinking fund, leaving a net school bonded indebtedness of \$257,300 at present.

(See FIRST STEPS, Page 4)

THE ROANOKE BEACON AND WASHINGTON COUNTY NEWS

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Back 'em Up! KEEP BUYING WAR BONDS

V-E Day Is Quietly Observed in County

Still Wins Mayoralty; Five New Councilmen Elected Here Tuesday

ELECTED MAYOR



Eugene F. Still, president of the Plymouth Box & Panel Company and a former councilman, was elected mayor of Plymouth for the coming two years at the town election Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Whitley Now Operate Williford's Tavern

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Whitley recently purchased Williford's Tavern and took over its operation Monday of this week.

New Schedule in Effect at School

Schedules for local school hours have been changed so that students now get out at 2 o'clock instead of 3:15 p.m. in order that those who work on farms may help with spring planting.

Mrs. Allie Roberson Rites Held Saturday

Mrs. Allie Bullock Roberson, widow of the late Ira Roberson, of Plymouth, died in a Rocky Mount hospital last Friday morning at 6:45 after an illness of only one week.

Daughter of the late Jessie B. and Luvonia Bullock, Mrs. Roberson was born in Pitt County on August 24, 1888, and lived there until about three years ago, when the family moved to Plymouth.

Mrs. Roberson is survived by six sons: Sam Roberson, of Tarboro; Alton Roberson, of Elizabeth City; Harvey Roberson, of the U. S. Navy, somewhere in the Pacific; Hugh Roberson, of the U. S. Navy, stationed in California; Carl Roberson, of the U. S. Army, stationed at Daytona Beach, Fla.; Ira Roberson, jr., of Plymouth; and one daughter, Miss Doris Roberson, of Plymouth.

Funeral services were held from the Horner Funeral Home here Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock, with the Rev. P. B. Nickens, pastor of the local Baptist church in charge.

New Group to Meet Monday to Organize

Riddle, Harrison, Brinkley, Keel, Byrd and Marrow Compose Council

Plymouth voters elected almost a completely new slate of town officials in the municipal election held here Tuesday. Only one member of the old council Henry E. Harrison, of the first ward, was returned to office.

The mayor and new council members took their oaths of office and entered upon their duties shortly after noon yesterday, as soon as the official canvass of returns was completed.

It also was announced that the new council would hold a meeting next Monday night for the purpose of organizing and studying the fiscal affairs and condition of the town.

In the election Tuesday, 437 votes were cast, a new high but still far short of the potential voting strength of the town.

In the first ward, 99 in the second, and 157 in the third, Mr. Still led the ticket in both the first and third wards, while both successful candidates for councilmen in the second ward received more votes than did either candidate for mayor.

Voting among the councilmanic candidates was close in the third ward, there were five candidates, including both members of the old council, A. J. Byrd, a late-comer in the race, announced last Saturday and led the balloting with 80 votes.

In the first ward, A. J. Riddle was top man for the council, with 130 votes, while Mr. Harrison came next, with 128. Edward L. Owens received 47 and P. H. Darden 34 votes.

Owners Requested To Call for Photos

The photographs of Washington County service men lent by relatives to the Plymouth Theatre for reproduction on the screen have been returned, and owners are requested to call for them at the theatre, Shep Brinkley stated this week.

Groups of the photographs are being shown on the screen here at all shows Saturday and Sunday of each week. About 50 appear in each group, and the series will continue for six or seven weeks more before they are all run.

3,000 Applications for Canning Sugar Made To Rationing Board Last Week

Approximately 3,000 applications for canning sugar were made at the school registration sites in the county last week, it was learned from the office of the war price and rationing board.

Half the total, or 1,500, applications were received from residents of the Plymouth-Wenona sections. The Roper community had about 700 applicants and Creswell approximately 800, according to a tentative survey made this week.

All applications must be indi-

A. D. Basinger Died Friday at Gastonia Home of Daughter

Had Been Resident Here Since 1910; In Failing Health Three Years

A. D. Basinger, well-known resident of Plymouth for 35 years, died as the result of a stroke at the home of his daughter, Mrs. W. L. Wilson, of Gastonia, last Friday evening at 11 o'clock.

Son of the late D. A. and Mary Ellen Basinger, he was born in Richmond, Va., on June 23, 1868. On June 28, 1891, he was married to Miss Annie L. Mills, also of Richmond, Va., and they continued to live there until 1910, when they moved to Plymouth.

Mr. Basinger was an exceptional master mechanic, and he came here to work with the old Wiltz Veneer Company. Later he went into business for himself as proprietor of the Basinger Machine Works.

Funeral services were held from the Billips Funeral Home in Richmond, Va., Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock, by the Rev. Mr. Morris, of the Methodist church.

Besides his widow, Mrs. Annie L. Basinger, of Gastonia and Plymouth, Mr. Basinger is survived by five daughters, Mrs. W. L. Wilson, of Gastonia; Mrs. H. W. Latham, of Arlington, Va.; Mrs. W. D. Powell, of Norfolk, Va.; Mrs. E. E. Adcock, of Lowell; Mrs. William Linkins, of Washington, D. C.; and two sons, Dan A. Basinger, of Plymouth; and Ira M. Basinger, of Richmond, Va.

Five Cases Tuesday In Recorder's Court

Charges Include Assault, Burglary, Larceny; One Held for High Court

Judge W. Ronald Gaylord tried only five cases in the recorder's court here Tuesday but defendants had a variety of charges including assault, burglary and larceny.

Joe Lassiter, colored, of Plymouth, was given 60 days on the county farm for being publicly drunk.

Robert Minton, USMC, white, charged with temporary larceny of an automobile and assault, was fined \$25 and costs and required to be of good behavior for a period of two years.

Willie Moore, colored, of Plymouth, age 16, was given a hearing on charges of burglary. Probable cause was found and Moore was bound over to the superior court under \$1,500 bond.

Organization of the soil conservation district was largely favored because it will make possible securing surplus government equipment without cost that may be used in drainage work in this section.

Honor Students at Local School Announced Today

Jack Harris won the honor of being valedictorian of the Plymouth High School graduating class, with a yearly average on all subjects of 92.43.

German Surrender Officially Proclaimed 9 A. M. Tuesday

Review Indicates Over 1,050 From County in Service

End of War in Europe Finds County Record Good in All Phases of Effort

When official proclamation of Victory in Europe was being read by President Truman Tuesday morning, the thoughts of most Washington County people turned back over the past three and a half years.

On December 7, 1941, there were possibly less than 100 men from this county in the armed forces of the nation. There were few on the scene in Pearl Harbor, when the treacherous Jap blow fell.

Since that date, more than 1,050 men from this county have entered the armed forces of the nation. This number represents almost 10 per cent of the 12,323 total population of the county in 1940.

At least five men were reported prisoners of war of the Germans or Italians during the course of the war; and, so far, relatives have received no news concerning their release.

Take Steps To Set Up Soil District

Vote in Five Counties of This Section Approved by State Committee

The recent referendum on organization of a soil district in this section was approved at a meeting of the State Conservation Committee on May 3.

The state committee appointed Alton D. Swindell, of Beaufort County, as soil conservation district supervisor for a term of two years and C. E. Morris, of Tyrrell County, for a term of one year.

The next step will be the election of three supervisors from the district for three-year terms. This election will be on a district-wide basis, it is stated.

Two Wounded On Iwo Jima Home

Privates Raymond Earl Phelps and Gerald Spencer, of the United States Marine Corps, both of whom were wounded in action at Iwo Jima, are visiting their parents and other relatives in the county this week.

Private Phelps was wounded in the right side, just above the belt, by a sniper, the bullet coming out through the left breast pocket of his shirt.

Sunday Will Be Doubly Observed

Next Sunday, May 13, is Mother's Day, and special sermons around this theme are announced at most churches and Sunday schools of the county.

Sunday has also been proclaimed by President Truman as a day of prayer throughout the United States, dedicated to the memory of those who have given their lives to make possible the victory over Germany.

Regular Meeting of Board Held Monday

Bond Election and Routine Matters Before County Commissioners

Mostly routine business was disposed of at the meeting of the County Board of Commissioners here Monday, with commissioners H. H. Allen, A. R. Latham, J. C. Knowles and T. F. Davenport present.

The report of Mrs. Frances M. Darden, covering work in April was accepted by the board.

A resolution was passed to the effect that the land belonging to Wynne C. Mighell, previously listed in Plymouth Township, lies in Beaufort County and was removed from the tax records of this county.

The secretary was instructed to write to the State Highway Commission for a map of the proposed all-weather highways that was considered.

J. W. Norman Heads 7th War Bond Drive

Bonner To Speak At School Closing

It was announced this week by Principal Roy I. Boyd that Representative Herbert Bonner would make the commencement address at the school finals here on Wednesday, June 6.

Congressman Bonner is a favorite in Washington County, and it is expected that a large crowd will greet him.

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News Signaled by Fire Siren; Stores Close for Services

Edge Taken From Official Announcement by Earlier Reports

Proclamation of Victory in Europe by President Harry Truman at 9 o'clock Tuesday morning was received very quietly by the people of Washington County.

Germany's formal capitulation came at 2:41 a.m. (French time) Monday, May 7 (8:41 p.m., Eastern War Time, Sunday, May 6). Official announcement was delayed for 30 hours until the heads of state of the United States, England and Russia could make simultaneous statements that complete victory in Europe had been achieved.

The fire siren in Plymouth signaled end of the war in Europe a few moments after President Truman completed reading the formal announcement.

In such manner local people received their most momentous news since Sunday, December 7, 1941, when the Japanese launched their sneak attack on Pearl Harbor.

Officially Begins Monday, May 14

People Called Upon To Respond in Usual Whole-Hearted Manner

James W. Norman, Plymouth merchant and member of the county board of education, was this week appointed chairman of the Seventh War Loan campaign in Washington County.

The county has a larger bond quota than it had in the Sixth War Loan last November and December, but it has more time to raise the increased amount, and it is a job that has to be done, according to Mr. Norman.

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Names of local committee members and canvassers will be announced next week by Mr. Norman.